



Family Court Project

Kosciusko County

Basic Information

Population:	77,609 as of 2012
County Seat:	Warsaw
Judicial Officers:	Michael W. Reed, Duane G. Huffer, Joe V. Sutton, James C. Jarrette
Date of Project Implementation:	1/1/2014
Project Judge/s:	Michael W. Reed, Duane G. Huffer, Joe V. Sutton
Administrative Contact:	Karla Redden
Project Funding:	ADR fees per I.C. 33-23-6, participant fees, Family Court Grant of \$10,000.00

Family Court Mission Statement

Please provide a mission statement for your Family Court Programming

Program is designed to assist family court case litigants, especially modest-means litigants, to resolve their custody disputes, parenting time disputes and/or property disputes through Alternative Dispute Resolution (Mediation) and parenting coordination in a timely, cost effective, and non-adversarial manner.

Family Court Programming

Please provide a description your Family Court Programming

The purpose of the Plan is to provide alternative dispute resolution (ADR) services to litigants in dissolution and paternity cases. The goal of the program is to provide ADR services that minimize conflict and promote prompt resolution to litigants that could not otherwise afford the services. As such, the judge directing the litigants into an ADR service will utilize the sliding scale fee to determine what contribution will be required of the parties. The alternative dispute forms may include: mediation, facilitation, non-binding arbitration, and parenting coordination. If mediation is ordered, the ADR Rules will apply. The Courts will seek approval of any new ADR programs from the Division of State Court Administration prior to ADR funds being expended on any "new" or unapproved ADR program. Litigants in dissolution and paternity will be required to participate in the Plan if ordered by the Court. The Courts will encourage the Bar to assist in identifying cases that would benefit from ADR services but the Court will ultimately determine which matters will be submitted to ADR, the type of ADR, and the costs associated with the ADR referral in accordance with the sliding scale. While the Plan is designed primarily for indigent or low-income litigants, to give them an avenue to resolve their issues quickly, with little expense, all litigants in the referenced types of cases may be referred to an ADR service. Litigants will be required to make a co-payment or full payment for

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services based upon the sliding scale. Nothing in the Plan prohibits the Courts from varying from strict application of the sliding scale as justice may require. A party currently charged with or convicted of a crime under I.C. 35-42 et seq. or a substantially similar crime in another jurisdiction, may not participate in the Plan.

Number of Families Served

Please provide an estimate of the number of families served through the Family Court Programming
Between January 1, 2014 and March 31, 2014, five (5) families were referred to mediation/parenting coordination in the Program.